

REMARKS .INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 49, 60, and 74 have been amended.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the foregoing amendments and new claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-82 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

In the Office Action at pages 3-7, the Examiner again rejects claims 49 and 60 under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of Kashiwagi (U.S. Patent No. 6,069,868) and Kobayashi (U.S. Patent No. 5,724,335). The rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Among other features, the Examiner acknowledges on page 4 of the Office Action that Kashiwagi does not suggest a collimating lens as recited in claim 49. In order to cure this deficiency, the Examiner asserts that FIG. 25 of Kobayashi teaches the use of a collimating lens having a diverging power. However, as discussed with the Examiner in the interview, even assuming arguendo that Kobayashi teaches the use of a lens which changes a divergence degree of diverged light, an example of which is a collimator, any divergence power within the shown lens would be that of a conventional collimating lens used in the context of a Digital Versatile Disk (DVD) and a Compact Disk (CD). As discussed in regard to FIGs. 2 and 12 of the instant application, such conventional collimating lenses do not prevent aberrations for ranges of wavelengths below 500 nm due to the changes in indexes of refraction for the materials making up the collimating lens. In the shown example in FIG. 12, a small variation from 400 nm to 405 nm results in appreciable aberration such that the conventional collimating lens is not usable for both wavelengths within a range near 400 nm as well as with DVDs and CDs. Since Kashiwagi is not relied upon as disclosing such a feature, it is respectfully submitted that the collimator of Kobayashi in combination with Kashiwagi does not disclose or suggest the collimating lens as recited in claim 49.

For at least similar reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the combination does not disclose or suggest the invention as recited in claim 60.

In the Office Action at pages 8-10, the Examiner rejects claim 74 under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of Kashiwagi, Kobayashi, and Kashiwagi (U.S. Patent No. 6,175,548). The rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

On page 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner relies on Kashiwagi (U.S. Patent No. 6,175,548) to disclose a range of blue laser light including a wavelength of less than 400 nm, but not as otherwise curing the above noted deficiencies of the combination of Kashiwagi and

Kobayashi as applied to claims 49 and 60. Therefore, for at least similar reasons to those set forth in regard to claims 49 and 60, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Kashiwagi, Kobayashi, and Kashiwagi (U.S. Patent No. 6,175,548) does not disclose or suggest the invention as recited in claim 74.

STATUS OF CLAIMS NOT REJECTED:

On page 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner allows claims 1-48, 50-59, 61-73, and 75-82.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any additional fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI LLP

By:

James G. McEwen
Registration No. 41,983

1400 Eye Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 216-9505
Facsimile: (202) 216-9510

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